



# ROTARY DISTRICT 5440 SUMMER YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(August 29, 2018)

**WHAT IS IT?:** A family to family exchange program between a student in this District and a foreign student.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?:** Students living in District 5440 who are between the ages of 15 and 19 and of good character and reputation. Sons and daughters of Rotarians are eligible for Youth Exchange but receive no special preference in selection. All applicants are selected solely on merit.

**WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THIS PROGRAM?:** Students who accept a challenge and can adjust to new situations.

### **WHAT DOES THE OUTBOUND STUDENT/FAMILY HAVE TO DO?:**

1. Pay for Rotary application fee (\$130), transportation, spending money, clothes, travel and health insurance, and any medical expense.
2. Host and the matched student in their home. Ideally, hosting should include some regional sightseeing. (see Inbound Students)
3. Have a valid passport and ability to obtain any necessary visas.
4. Desire to experience a foreign culture and language.
5. Have the ability to handle day-to-day challenges and frustrations, occasional loneliness, tolerate attitudes, ideas and values that are different from their country.
6. Attend an Outbound Orientation in Douglas, Wyoming on in early April 2019.
7. All persons age 18 and over who reside in the applicant's home must submit to and pass a background check.

### **WHAT DOES THE HOSTING FAMILY HAVE TO DO?:**

1. Each student/family will host the reciprocal exchange student in their home for an equal period of time. Ideally, hosting should include some regional sightseeing but we cannot guarantee that will happen.
2. The inbound student's family is responsible for their student's transportation, spending money, clothes, health insurance, all medical expenses, and so on.
3. It is not essential that the host parents be a Rotarians.
4. Host families must undertake to supervise the student as if he/she were their own son/daughter.
5. Inbound student must be included in all family activities and treated as a family member and assist with general household chores, keeping room tidy, lawn mowing, washing the car, etc. *He/she is not a baby sitter.*

6. Student is expected to adapt to the discipline of the host family.

### **HOW CAN I TAKE A STEP FORWARD?**

Send a complete application including:

1. **STEP Application checklist**
2. **STEP Country Preference Form**
3. **STEP Application**
4. **A signed STEP Rules Form**
5. Copy of existing **passport**.
6. A filing fee of \$130.00, payable by the student's family to District 5440 Youth Exchange.  
Half will be refunded, if no placement is made. There is no refund if the student withdraws.

**Deadline for complete application packet to be received by District Short-Term Youth Exchange Chair is December 15, 2018 for exchange in the summer of 2019.** Our goal is to have all students matched by March 15, 2019.

All application materials can be found at: <http://rotary5440.org/SitePage/summer-youth-exchange> or by clicking on the "Summer YE program" link on the Rotary District 5440 Website: <http://rotary5440.org>.